

REQUEST FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PATENT PROSECUTION HIGHWAY (PPH) PROGRAM BETWEEN THE JAPAN PATENT OFFICE (JPO) AND THE USPTO

Application No.:	10/559,532	Filing Date:	December 2, 2005
First Named Inventor:	TAKEHIKO KAWASAKI ET AL.		
Attorney Docket No.:	03500.018188.		

Title of the
Invention: SHEET MATERIAL IDENTIFYING APPARATUS, SHEET MATERIAL TREATING APPARATUS, AND SH

**THIS REQUEST FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PPH PROGRAM ALONG WITH THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED VIA EFS-
WEB. INFORMATION REGARDING EFS-WEB IS AVAILABLE AT [HTTP://WWW.USPTO.GOV/EBS/EFS_HELP.HTML](http://www.uspto.gov/ebs/efs_help.html).**

**APPLICANT HEREBY REQUESTS PARTICIPATION IN THE PATENT PROSECUTION HIGHWAY (PPH) PROGRAM
AND PETITIONS TO MAKE THE ABOVE-IDENTIFIED APPLICATION SPECIAL UNDER THE PPH PROGRAM.**

The above-identified application (1) validly claims priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a) and 37 CFR 1.55 to one or more corresponding JPO application(s) or to a PCT application that does not contain any priority claim, or (2) is a national stage entry of a PCT application that does not contain any priority claim.

**The JPO/PCT application
number(s) is/are:**

**The filing date of the JPO/
PCT application(s) is/are:**

I. List of Required Documents:

- a. **A copy of the latest JPO office actions (other than "Decision to Grant a Patent") in the above-identified JPO application(s)**

☐ Is attached.

☒ Is not attached because the JPO application was allowed in a first office action.

*It is not necessary to submit a copy of the "Decision to Grant a Patent" and an English translation thereof.

- b. **A copy of all claims which were determined to be patentable by the JPO in the above-identified JPO application(s)**

☒ Is attached.

- c. **English translations of the documents in a. and b. above along with a statement that the English translations are accurate are attached (if the documents are not in the English language). An accuracy statement for the English translation of the documents in a. above is not required if the English translation is a machine translation provided by the JPO.**

- d. **(1) An information disclosure statement listing the documents cited in the JPO office actions**

☒ Is attached.

☐ Has already been filed in the above-identified U.S. application on _____

(2) Copies of all documents (except for U.S. patents or U.S. patent application publications)

☒ Are attached.

☐ Have already been filed in the above-identified U.S. application on _____

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This collection of information is required by 35 U.S.C. 119, 37 CFR 1.55, and 37 CFR 1.102(d). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public, which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS.

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Privacy Act Statement

The **Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579)** requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (*i.e.*, GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.